



**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A glutamine-auxotrophic human cell transfected with

(a) an exogenous DNA sequence encoding a protein or an exogenous DNA sequence capable of altering the expression of an endogenous gene encoding a protein, and

(b) an exogenous DNA sequence encoding a glutamine synthetase,

wherein these exogenous DNA sequences are located on more than one DNA construct, said transfected cell capable of producing said protein

and capable of growing in a glutamine-free medium.

Claim 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 1, wherein the glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is an immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell.

4. (Original) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 3, wherein the immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is a human fibrosarcoma cell.

5. (Original) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 4, wherein the human fibrosarcoma cell is a HT1080 cell line.

6. (Previously Presented) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 1, wherein the transfected cell is anchorage-independent and capable of growing in suspension in serum-free and glutamine-free medium.

7. (Original) A process for the production of a protein comprising the steps of

a) culturing a glutamine-auxotrophic human cell according to claim 1 in a culture medium under conditions suitable for expression of said protein and

b) recovering said protein.

8. (Original) The process of claim 7 wherein the protein is a glycosylated protein.

Claim 9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 7 wherein the culture medium is serum-free and/or glutamine free.

11. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 7 wherein the culture medium is both serum free and glutamine free.

12. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 1 wherein the protein is a glycosylated protein.

13. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 8 wherein said glycosylated protein is a sialylated protein.

14. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 13 wherein sialylation is defined by N-glycan charge.

15. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 14 wherein said sialylated protein comprises tri, tetra- or pentasialo glycoforms of said N-glycan.

16. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 12 wherein glycosylated protein is a sialylated protein.

17. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 16 wherein sialylation is defined by N-glycan charge.

18. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 17 wherein said sialylated protein comprises tri, tetra- or pentasialo glycoforms of said N-glycan.

19. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 7, wherein the glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is an immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell.

20. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19, wherein the immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is a human fibrosarcoma cell.

21. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 16 wherein the sialylated protein is Erythropoietin.

22. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 21 wherein the Erythropoietin is human Erythropoietin.

23. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 13 wherein the sialylated protein is Erythropoietin.

24. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 23 wherein the Erythropoietin is human Erythropoietin.